

SM 101 MANAGED LANES PROJECT

HOW AN EXPRESS LANE OPERATES



FACT SHEET

DECEMBER 6, 2017

Caltrans proposes to build an express lane in both directions on Highway 101 in San Mateo County. The express lanes would connect with existing carpool lanes at Whipple Avenue which would be converted into express lanes themselves, creating new continuous express lanes that extend from I-380 in San Bruno to San Antonio Road in Mountain View.



New express lanes (blue) would connect with existing carpool lanes (red), which will be converted to express lanes themselves, creating a 22-mile express lane in each direction. Connecting these lanes with a system of express lanes in Santa Clara County is part of a regional master plan.

Construct Start: Spring 2019 **Project Cost:** \$534 Million
(Dependent upon funding)

Construct Finish: Early 2022 **Contractor:** To be Determined

Project Limits: Between I-380 in South San Francisco to San Antonio Road in Palo Alto

Purpose and Need:

- Encourage carpooling and transit use
- Improve travel time reliability for express lane users
- Increase person throughput (the number of people moved)
- Apply technology and design features to help manage traffic
- Reduce congestion in the corridor
- Reduce operational problems in the general purpose lanes.

Project Partners: Caltrans, San Mateo County Transportation Authority, City/County Association of San Mateo

GLOSSARY

THROUGHPUT: The number of vehicles or people passing through a lane in an hour; person throughput, vehicle throughput

HOV LANE: High Occupancy Vehicle Lane, also known as a carpool lane

EXPRESS LANE: A carpool lane that allows single-occupancy vehicles that pay a toll. Also, known as at HOT Lane, a high occupancy toll lane.

MANAGED LANE: A general term for a lane that is either a carpool lane or an express lane. This project is called the Managed Lanes Project because both carpool and express lanes were studied.

AUXILIARY LANE: An outer lane that begins at an on-ramp and ends at an off-ramp. "Aux" lanes allow space for vehicles to safely merge on and off the freeway. An auxiliary lane is not a through lane.

3+ CARPOOL LANE: A carpool lane that requires three or more occupants during a specified time